

Testimony of Elizabeth Andersen in favor of House Bill 2928, The Wind Energy Relief Act, 9/24/19

Good afternoon.

My name is Elizabeth Andersen and I would like to tell you about the six nightmare years it took us to stop Falmouth's wind turbines from beating up on us, and members of the Town of Falmouth to stop bullying us.

From the beginning, those huge turbines pounded our home day and night – no break for holidays. It was torture, pure and simple.

We couldn't work, couldn't stay around the house. We became sick, sleep deprived zombies.

We went to our town hall and begged for help. Forget it. This was the MA CEC and Falmouth's big green energy project and we were just complainers.

And that was the type of treatment we received from both our town and state government for six long years.

We were labeled the anti-green people – had our house egged and vandalized. Taunting us became sport, and defeating us the prize.

So we went to the courts to get relief. Living on and using our very hard earned retirement savings.

We very slowly made our way through the legal system.

All the while we were sick and tired, often losing that will to live.

Then, finally, the turbines are deemed the nuisance we always said they were. They are ordered shut down.

The Town of Falmouth has now moved on to other things - but we can't.

They callously took so much from us without so much as a pardon – our basic rights, our good health, years of our lives, an imminent retirement, and the sense of community we thought we had for 40 years.

But, in a real community, you should never be told that your life is "collateral damage" for any project.